



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY ALASKA
600 RICHARDSON DRIVE # 5000
FORT RICHARDSON, ALASKA 99505-5000



APVR-RDL-CXF

JUL 25 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Winter Storage of MREs (DOL/DCSLOG Policy Number 4-38)

1. During the periods of October through April, MREs stored in uncontrolled temperature environments are subject to freezing.
2. Frozen MREs that remain in storage (not removed for any reason) during the winter months may be retained in storage through the summer.
3. Frozen MREs that have been removed from storage (restocked on pallets, on and off loaded on trucks, air dropped, etc.) and not utilized in the field must remain frozen until consumed. These MREs must not be stored beyond the winter in which they were initially frozen since meal entree pouches, when subjected simultaneously to freezing temperatures below 32 degrees Fahrenheit and rough handling, become brittle. Damage to the frozen MRE occurs when rough handling and vibrations cause the sharp edges of the frozen pouch contents to cut the brittle pouch material, thus exposing the contents. The exposed contents when allowed to thaw will spoil rapidly if not consumed immediately.
4. MREs that have been removed from storage, subjected to freezing and then returned to storage must be clearly marked in order to insure these rations are used or otherwise discarded prior to reaching thawing temperatures in storage areas. A weekly serviceability check should be conducted by an individual in the grade of E-6 or above. The serviceability check should include a check for "leaking", foul odors, or other indicators of unserviceable rations. If rations are suspected of being unserviceable, the unit should notify the Army Veterinary Service responsible for inspecting the unit's rations. Serviceability reports should be kept on file until these rations are consumed or discarded.
5. The storage environment should not be conducive to freezing. Long term storage of MREs should not be below 34 degrees Fahrenheit.

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6. POC is Gary Rosynek, 384-1743.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. M. Shea", is positioned above the printed name.

THOMAS M. SHEA

COL, TC

Director of Logistics

DISTRIBUTION:

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